

## The BackPage

Sept/Oct 2012

### Derecho

"Derecho" — deh-RAY-cho — is a Spanish word that can be defined as "straight ahead." June's derecho

gained momentum as it crossed the Appalachian Mountains and did some of its greatest damage from southern Pennsylvania to Northern Virginia. The value of spoiled vaccine attributed to the derecho was extremely high because many providers failed to implement their Emergency Response Plans. Review your Emergency Response Plan with staff regularly. Be prepared to implement the plan to prevent vaccine loss. Providers will be asked to replace wasted doses in the very near future!

### 2012-13 Influenza VISs and MMWR

The first doses of VVFC Influenza vaccine were distributed the first week of August! Please let Susan Kocen know if your facility has any specific vaccine delivery dates, and we will try to accommodate them as doses become available at McKesson.

MedImmune will once again offer their FluMist replacement program. Details are forthcoming.

The 2012–13 influenza vaccine VISs will be available in several additional languages in the near future from the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) at: <http://www.immunize.org/vis/>. The August 17<sup>th</sup> Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) includes updates to influenza vaccine recommendations for the 2012-2013 season. The MMWR can be found at: [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6132a3.htm?s\\_cid=mm6132a3\\_e%0d%0a](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6132a3.htm?s_cid=mm6132a3_e%0d%0a)

### 4-Day Grace Period

Since March 2010, Virginia has officially observed the 4-day "grace period" for all vaccines, including MMR and varicella, to align with ACIP recommendations. Prior to 2010, the 4-day "grace period" could not be applied because Virginia regulations specifically defined 12 months of age as 365 days. Regulations were amended in 2010 to define 12 months of age as 361 days (to include the 4-day "grace period") for the purpose of record reviews. The 4-day "grace period" should not be used when scheduling future vaccination visits. It should be used primarily when reviewing vaccination records such as evaluating a vaccination record prior to entry to daycare or school. **Note:** There is NO 4-day "grace period" for live parenteral (injected) and intranasal vaccines NOT administered on the same day. There must be 28 days between live vaccines when not administered on the same day.

### Promotional Materials

The Division of Immunization occasionally receives phone calls from providers and health departments asking for promotional materials/posters, etc. for vaccine-related topics, especially influenza. CDC offers some free (and focus group tested) materials. The link to the CDC Publications Order Form can be found at: <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/pubs/ncird.aspx>

### VAERS Reporting

The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) is a national vaccine safety surveillance program. The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (NCVIA) of 1986 requires health professionals and vaccine manufacturers to report to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) specific adverse events that occur after the administration of routinely recommended vaccines. Health Departments are reminded to report through VDH/DOI. <http://vaers.hhs.gov/about/index>

### Gold Star Awards

#### Exceptional Immunization Rates

Liberty Pediatrics, Newport News  
Practice of Dr. Sapra, Norton  
Valley Pediatric Group at Waynesboro, Waynesboro



#### Outstanding VVFC Compliance

Appomattox Medical Center, Appomattox  
Ashbrook Pediatrics, Ashburn  
Blackstone Family Practice, Blackstone  
Carilion Pediatric Clinic, Roanoke  
Clarksville Primary Care, Clarksville  
CMG Nansemond Pediatrics, Suffolk  
Liberty Pediatrics, Newport News  
Madison Primary Care, Madison  
Practice of Dr. Stiff, Hampton  
Mountainview Pediatrics, Marion  
Pediatric Diagnostic Center, Norfolk  
Pediatric Diagnostic Center, Virginia Beach  
Piedmont Pediatrics, Warrenton  
Practice of Dr. Jain, Wise  
Preferred Pediatrics at Lee's Hill, Fredericksburg  
Preferred Pediatrics at Snowden, Fredericksburg  
Royal Oak Medical Associates, Marion  
Royal Oak Pediatric Associates, Marion  
South Hill Family Medicine, South Hill  
The Barter Clinic, Floyd  
Tidewater Children's Associates, Suffolk  
Valley Pediatric Group at Waynesboro, Waynesboro

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